



CITY OF LODI COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE: Endorsement of Sites Identified by the Delta College Task Force for a College Campus near Lodi

MEETING DATE: August 30, 2005, Special Meeting

PREPARED BY: City Manager

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Endorse the sites identified by the Delta College Task Force for a college campus near Lodi and direct that the City Council's endorsement be transmitted to the San Joaquin Delta College Board of Trustees.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: On June 7, 2005, the City Council received a presentation from San Joaquin Delta College with regard to the development of a new campus in the Lodi-Galt area. With the passage of Measure "L" in 2004, the College District is committed to finding a location to develop a new facility to serve the needs of the Lodi-Galt-Foothill area. Over 2,600 students with Lodi and Galt zip codes attend Delta College. This makes up 14% of the college's total enrollment. With a new campus, the college would like to offer classes in General Education, Public Safety, Viticulture, Hospitality, and Culinary Arts; however, the college must first find a suitable site to develop a campus.

In response, the City Council directed that a "Delta College Task Force" be formed. Council Members Hansen and Johnson were appointed to serve as liaisons. A 17-member Task Force was assembled. The Task Force includes representatives from education, business, agriculture, health care, students, the arts, and City staff.

The Task Force identified the following criteria on which the college will be making a site selection decision:

- Easy access to a main thoroughfare (the college wants to serve students from the foothills and the northern area of its district)
- Price – Affordability
- Access to infrastructure
- Growth potential and size (between 75 to 100 acres)
- Public support
- At least ten miles from the current San Joaquin Delta College

Considering the above factors and assisted by members of the local real estate community, the Task Force identified two to three sites or locations that reasonably meet the selection criteria.

APPROVED: _____
Blair King, City Manager


A map showing the sites in general will be presented to the Council at the Council meeting. Considering the sensitive nature of land negotiations, the potential sites are depicted in an approximate fashion. Due to the issue of the need for growth potential, none of the sites are within the existing City Limits. Although approximate locations are shown, the Council, in endorsing the sites recommended by the Task Force, should address the following policy considerations:

- Does the City of Lodi want to encourage Delta College to locate a site in the Lodi area?
- Is the Council willing to endorse a site immediately north of the Mokelumne River or a site along Highway 12 east of Lodi?
- Will the City be willing to provide municipal utilities to the site at Delta College's expense?
- If a College is developed on the proposed alternative sites, is the Council willing to acknowledge that eventually this site may be annexed to the City?

Contingent upon the City Council's endorsement, the Task Force is prepared to appear before the Delta College Board of Trustees at its August 30 meeting to support the locations offered for a campus near Lodi. Discussions are underway concerning the best way to provide the site-specific information to the college's consultants and staff. The college's site selection consultant has indicated that he intends to provide the Board of Trustees with his findings in September.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The City has expended a nominal sum to host the Task Force and print promotional materials. A college in Lodi may have long-term positive impacts upon the tax base and quality of life for Lodi residents.



Blair King
City Manager

filed 8-30-05



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